

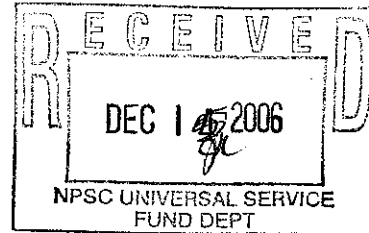
**Wm. C. Brueggemann**  
**Sheriff**  
**CASS COUNTY**

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December 13, 2006

Nebraska Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 94927  
Lincoln, NE 68508



To Whom It May Concern:


I am writing today to voice my concern and ask for your support to increase the surcharge on each wireless phone service by 20 cents. This would help offset the revenue being lost by the decrease in landline subscriptions. With the growing need for new technology and the rising maintenance costs associated with the 911 system, the proposed increase in revenue would be instrumental in maintaining the 911 systems and the associated costs to keep them updated.

Between January of 2001 and December of 2006, the revenue generated from the 911 surcharge in Cass County has decreased \$28,482.49 during this 5-year period. While the revenue is declining, the cost of maintaining the current system has soared from \$90,390.73 in 2001 to \$140,138.29 by the end of 2005, an approximate 55% increase in just 4 years.

The future of landline use is looking bleak. With the increase in the use of cell phones and the conveniences they provide to the users, many families elect to discontinue their landline service because of the costs associated with having two or more phone bills. Windstream, the company that provides the landline phone service in Cass County, has noticed a 16.87% decrease in landline service over the past 5 years. It is unlikely that this trend will turn around anytime in the foreseeable future.

Technology seems to be the answer and is the necessary trend to provide better Public Safety in Nebraska, however it does not come without a cost. A cost, if handled correctly, will only be limited to a financial cost and not that of jeopardizing the safety of life or property in Nebraska. The fundamental use and efficiencies of future operations through out the 911 centers across Nebraska are dependent on the expertise and problem solving skills of the members of the Nebraska Public Safety Commission. Please consider and cast your support where you know it needs to be.

Sincerely,

  
William C. Brueggemann  
Cass County Sheriff